Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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LATE NEWS

Unusually heavy rainfall in February and March 1951 in Paraguay may reduce the 1950-51 cotton crop (now being picked) by as much as 40 percent. Previous estimates, which placed the crop at around 63,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). have now been reduced to about 37,000 bales. Production in 1949-50 totaled 66,000 bales. Excessive rain also lowered the quality of the cotton harvested.

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A contract for Canadian cheese was drawn up the past week between the United Kingdom and the Ontario (Canada) Cheese Marketing Board. The British Ministry of Food officials are not dealing with the Canadian Government as in previous years, but with the Ontario Cheese Marketing Board and with the Cooperative in the Province of Quebec. It is expected that the price agreed upon will be about 30 cents per pound for an unspecified quantity of cheese. This compares with a price of just under 19 cents for cheese from New Zealand for the United Kingdom contract.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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MEAT PRODUCTION DURING 1950

Meat output in the principal livestock countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, is estimated by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations to have approached 72.5 billion pounds during 1950. This is an increase of 5 percent or 3.6 billion pounds above the revised 1949 estimate of 68.9 billion pounds. The 1950 production is believed to be the largest on record and exceeds the 1934-38 prewar average by 6 percent. An outstanding increase in pork output, plus a moderate rise in beef production, more than offset the decrease in lamb and mutton. The decline in lamb and mutton is attributed in part to the retention of sheep for wool purposes.

World meat production continued the upward trend in 1950 following 3 generally favorable seasons for forage and feed supplies. Strong demand for meat was reflected by good prices in 1948, 1949 and 1950 which encouraged livestock producers in important areas to expand breeding programs and feeding schedules.

Output on all continents except South America and Oceania was increased in 1950, or maintained at the level of the previous year. The largest gains were reported for Europe and the Soviet Union with minor increases in North America and the Middle East. Despite the substantial increase in Europe and the Soviet Union, meat output was still below prewar levels in these areas.

Because of the larger livestock population on farms and ranches the outlook appears favorable for a continued rise in the world meat production. This, of course, will be contingent upon the extent to which livestock holdings might have to be reduced, or could be increased in keeping with the available feed supply. Nevertheless, based on current information, it is likely that the 1950 production level will be surpassed in 1951.

Meat output of the United States increased 2 percent in 1950 and is now 37 percent above prewar, but 12 percent below the peak year of 1944. Production of pork and beef increased, but veal, lamb and mutton fell off. The rise in pork was associated with good prices and a favorable feed supply which stimulated farrowings. Prospects for 1951 are that total meat supplies may be greater by around 5 percent, with most of the increase occurring in pork. Output of meat in Canada during 1950 declined about 2 percent from 1949, but remained substantially above the 1935-39 average. Live cattle exports to the United States in 1950 were 6 percent above the preceeding year and were considerably larger than during prewar years. Meat production in Mexico declined slightly, but Cuban output in 1950 was maintained on a par with 1949.

Substantial increases in pork and beef were reported for Europe during 1950. Although total European meat outturn was 13 percent above 1949, it was still 11 percent below prewar. The expanding of livestock numbers during 1948 and 1949 made possible the increased slaughter in 1950. Feed was

MEAT 1/: Preliminary estimate of production of beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, and total meats in specified countries in 1950, with comparisons

Country	Beef and Veal			Pork (excluding lard)			Mutton and Lamb			Total 2/		
	Average 1934-38	1949	1950	Average 1934-38	1949	1950	Average 1934-38	1949	1950	Average 1934-38	1949	1950
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA												
Canada 3/	735	991	916	621	910	964	61	44	36	1,417	1,945	1,916
Mexico	492	747	710	167	225	258	14	25	19	698	1,023	1,013
United States 3/	7,974	10,770	10,768	7,337	10,333	10,867	871	607	601	16,182	21,710	22,236
Cuba 4/	269	375	374	38	37	35	2	2	2	309	414	411
EUROPE												
Austria 5/	231	135	175	359	250	335 6/	18 6/	12 6/	11	617	490	530
Belgium	304	270	284	367	300	372	7	5	5	693	636	701
Bulgaria 7/	105	--	--	134	--	--	88	--	--	337	--	--
Czechoslovakia 8/	411	229	--	600	485	--	6	5	--	1,032	735	--
Denmark 3/ 9/	361	266	346	725	587	750	8	4	4	1,105	893	1,120
Finland 3/	115	80	89	122	143	141	10	12	15	256	245	255
France	2,200	2,183	2,161	1,494	1,698	1,763 6/	222 6/	243 6/	243	4,015	4,255	4,310
Germany-Western	1,550	1,000	1,314	2,500	1,470	2,161	45	53	44	4,140	2,588	3,596
Greece 10/	32	23	23	40	38	40 6/	136 6/	83 6/	75	208	144	138
Hungary	11/ 155	--	--	11/ 450	--	--	22	--	-- 11/	635	--	--
Ireland	103	128	136	196	151	158	37	32	33	336	311	327
Italy	11/ 705	640	670 11/	650	650	640 6/	108 6/	110 6/	120 11/	1,490	1,440	1,480
Netherlands	308	189	306	548	361	544	20	15	20	894	593	908
Norway	12/ 94	88	90 12/	89	76	108 12/	32	32	35 12/	223	203	240
Poland 13/	755	--	--	1,655	--	--	30	--	--	2,450	--	--
Rumania	11/ 245	--	-- 11/	375	--	-- 6/ 11/	110	--	-- 11/	735	--	--
Sweden 3/	292	251	252	327	384	389 6/	8 6/	6 6/	6	649	668	672
Switzerland	217	181	194	190	176	200	4	4	3	419	371	406
United Kingdom 10/	1,393	1,183	1,419	1,012	600	878	447	314	334	2,852	2,097	2,631
Yugoslavia	243	--	--	476	--	-- 6/	147	--	--	888	--	--
Soviet Union 13/ 14/	2,855	--	--	3,459	--	--	978	--	--	7,292	--	--
SOUTH AMERICA												
Argentina	11/ 3,645	4,490	4,300 11/	15/ 225	15/ 340	15/ 300 11/	370	460	330 11/	4,240	5,290	4,930
Brazil 15/	1,821	2,276	2,350	369	515	530	15	38	39	2,214	2,857	2,947
Chile	235	236	254	39	54	56	72	81	84	349	374	397
Paraguay	167	198	193	--	--	--	--	--	--	167	198	193
Uruguay 16/	615	636	640	30	30	30	140	179	165	785	845	835
AFRICA												
Union of South Africa	421	675	677	64	104	107 6/	186 6/	175 6/	163	671	954	947
OCEANIA												
Australia 10/	12/ 1,275	1,309	1390 12/	211	192	173 12/	716	825	685 12/	2,202	2,345	2,248
New Zealand 17/	365	398	414	106	88	90	553	712	744	1,024	1,198	1,248

1/ Carcass meat basis-excludes edible offal and lard. 2/ Includes other meat, i.e. goat and horse meat. Excludes offal, rabbit and poultry meat. 3/ Averages for years 1935-39. 4/ Averages for year 1936-40. 5/ Averages for years 1933-37. 6/ Includes goat meat. 7/ Averages for year 1935-38. 8/ Year 1936 for prewar. 9/ Includes carcass meat equivalent of live animal exports. 10/ Averages for years 1936-38. 11/ Revised. 12/ Year beginning June 1. 13/ Year 1938 for prewar. 14/ Prewar territory. 15/ Excludes farm production. 16/ Revised to include estimated production on farms. 17/ Year beginning June 1 for prewar 1936-38; year ending September 30 for years 1949 and 1950.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, and other information. Data for countries having changed boundaries relate to present territory, unless otherwise noted.

adequate during the past few years, but a general tightening of forage and feed supplies in many important livestock areas during 1950 in Europe may curtail further herd expansion and force marketings of stock. This was true in the Netherlands during the past year and was in fact responsible for the large increases in meat output. France, Germany and the United Kingdom are the principal producers of meat in Europe. Germany and the United Kingdom made outstanding gains in meat production during 1950, but remained considerably below prewar levels. France increased production very slightly and is 7 percent above prewar. Danish meat outturn was 25 percent above 1949, while Ireland raised production by only 5 percent. Denmark is now slightly above prewar, and Ireland increased to within 3 percent of the 1934-38 average. Irish meat outturn was 5 percent below 1949, while Denmark moderately increased production by the same percentage. Denmark is now slightly above prewar, but Ireland dropped 3 percent below the 1934-38 average.

Eastern European countries have reportedly brought up meat production, but are still below prewar. Yugoslavia and other southeastern European countries were forced to market stock in 1950 because of severe drought. Consequently, output of meat in these countries undoubtedly was augmented.

Reliable estimates of meat output in the Soviet Union are unavailable; however, data on current livestock numbers suggest that sizable increases have occurred. Nevertheless, current output is believed to be considerably below Russian production goals as well as prewar levels.

The general meat outturn in the Middle East and Africa remained at the 1949 level. The Union of South Africa reversed a rising postwar trend in 1950 when slaughter dropped slightly. In many African and Asiatic countries the livestock population figures are apt to present a distorted picture of meat output because of the unwillingless of the natives to market cattle, and the frequency of disease.

Better pasture conditions in Argentina and Uruguay during the latter part of 1950 encouraged producers to retain stock and rebuild drought-damaged herds. Accordingly, meat output in 1950 was below 1949, but continued above prewar. Prospects for an increased kill in Argentina during 1951 are favorable with the recent signing of the Anglo-Argentine trade agreement. Production in Brazil and Chile rose by 3 and 6 percent, respectively, but was apparently maintained in Columbia.

An increase in beef production in Australia helped to offset a decline in mutton. Total meat output, although slightly below 1949, continued above prewar. Improved grazing conditions during the past 3 years contributed greatly to the upward trend of meat production in Australia and New Zealand. In New Zealand, the meat output during the past year increased 4 percent and is reported at 22 percent above the 1936-38 prewar average.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION REVISED SLIGHTLY UPWARD

World cotton production in 1950-51 is now estimated at 27,520,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) compared with the last previous estimate of 27,350,000 bales and a revised estimate of 31,330,000 bales for 1949-50. An upward revision in the United States figure for 1950-51 accounted for 128,000 of the 170,000 increase in the world total.

The United States crop of 10,012,000 bales is below the 1949-50 crop by 6,116,000 bales or 38 percent, while foreign production increased by 2.3 million or 15 percent above the 1949-50 estimate of 15.2 million bales. The reduction in the United States was attributed to acreage controls and heavy boll weevil damage, excessive rain and cool weather in most of the Cotton Belt extending eastward from Oklahoma and East Texas. Cotton acreage in 1950-51, estimated at 17,828,000 acres, is 35 percent lower than the 1949-50 estimate of 27,230,000 acres.

Foreign production as a whole increased about 2.3 million bales with .8 million of the estimated increase in China and .6 million in the Soviet Union. Estimates for both of these countries are based on incomplete information. The remaining .9 million-bale increase in foreign production was accounted for mainly by India with 350,000, Mexico 213,000, Pakistan 168,000 and Brazil 150,000. Greater percentage increases were reported from many smaller producing countries such as Syria, Turkey, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Greece, and Iraq but they were largely offset by decreases in Argentina, Egypt, Belgian Congo and a few others. Yields were generally down this year in Southern Hemisphere countries both in South America and Africa.

Cotton price increases in 1950 occurred too late in the year to be fully reflected in acreage increases in Northern Hemisphere countries in 1950-51. Acreage increases in Southern Hemisphere countries, especially Brazil and Argentina, were offset by excessive rains and heavy insect infestation.

The current high world prices for cotton no doubt will be reflected in sharp acreage increases in a large number of small producing countries but increases in India, Pakistan, Peru and several minor producing areas will be limited by food production programs. Mexican growers in the important Matamoros District got a poor start for the 1951-52 crop because of an extended drought that was not broken until about a month after the beginning of the planting season. It is too early to estimate the 1951-52 cotton crops in the Southern Hemisphere which will not be planted until after September 1951 but no major increases are foreseen.

World production of 27.5 million bales in 1950-51 was approximately 5.5 million bales less than estimated world consumption during the same period. World production and world consumption should be much more

COTTON: Acreage and production in specified areas, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1948-50 1/

Continent and country	Acreage, Year beginning August 1					Production 2/, Year beginning August 1				
	Averages					Averages				
	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949 3/	1950 3/	1935-39	1940-44	1948	1949 3/	1950 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
NORTH AMERICA										
El Salvador	9	23	32	43	50	5	12	22	31	25
Guatemala	-	7	8	8	9	2	3	6	5	6
Mexico	725	855	1,050	1,446	1,876	334	425	570	937	1,150
Nicaragua	9	7	8	37	50	5	5	6	21	28
United States	27,788	21,992	22,921	27,230	17,828	13,149	11,957	14,877	16,128	10,012
British West Indies	20	20	16	16	-	5	5	6	5	-
Haiti	-	-	40	40	-	22	12	13	8	4
Total 4/	28,642	22,960	24,080	28,825	19,861	13,523	12,421	15,502	17,137	11,232
EUROPE										
Bulgaria 5/	85	61	-	-	-	35	17	-	-	-
Greece	168	101	112	141	191	76	27	55	72	112
Italy	56	106	38	43	54	21	27	10	9	12
Rumania 5/	8	63	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	-
Spain	46	96	131	135	-	10	17	31	14	19
Yugoslavia	8	15	-	104	-	3	4	-	21	-
Total 4/	372	443	552	634	701	147	103	161	166	199
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	3,911	4,100	4,550	5,600	3,430	2,080	2,600	2,700	-
ASIA										
Cyprus	11	6	5	6	8	3	1	1	2	2
Iran	453	384	259	247	300	171	105	92	96	110
Iraq	53	73	15	24	-	11	10	2	9	38
Syria	85	48	54	-	-	28	15	28	80	140
Turkey	667	736	734	804	1,108	249	241	308	480	562
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	49	23	20	20	20
Burma	428	364	153	184	185	97	80	35	28	35
China (inc. Manchuria)	7,038	5,849	6,300	5,300	7,650	2,855	2,012	2,115	1,700	2,500
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	6	7	-	1	1
Japan	2	-	7	12	-	1	1	2	3	-
India	6/ 24,204	6/ 20,518	11,055	11,793	13,000	6/ 5,348	6/ 4,853	1,960	2,350	2,700
Korea 7/	564	776	281	330	-	198	196	72	81	-
Indonesia	27	24	-	-	-	9	10	5	5	-
Pakistan	6/	6/	2,800	2,862	2,800	6/	6/	832	1,000	1,168
Philippine Islands	5	15	3	3	3	1	3	1	1	1
Siam	16	80	70	82	-	7	29	27	28	-
Total 4/	33,805	29,100	21,885	21,962	26,105	9,038	7,593	5,510	5,889	7,364
SOUTH AMERICA										
Argentina	770	826	1,150	1,141	1,250	289	398	450	643	500
Brazil	5,562	5,812	4,100	4,500	4,700	1,956	2,169	1,500	1,300	1,450
Colombia	98	99	-	-	-	23	22	28	41	48
Ecuador	40	38	-	-	-	13	9	12	9	12
Paraguay	111	116	131	161	160	40	42	45	66	63
Peru	428	353	370	380	-	379	311	265	371	350
Venezuela	50	53	-	-	-	11	15	13	6	5
Total 4/	7,060	7,299	5,993	6,420	6,723	2,711	2,966	2,315	2,438	2,430
AFRICA AND OCEANIA										
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	363	402	430	539	248	253	284	305	363
Belgian Congo	874	923	741	750	700	172	182	220	234	205
Kenya	-	-	43	50	53	13	21	8	7	10
Nyasaland	84	56	-	-	-	12	7	10	9	7
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	50	45	42	43	41
Uganda	1,477	1,152	1,555	1,629	1,550	281	198	327	283	267
Canary Islands	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	1	2
Egypt	1,821	1,162	1,496	1,756	2,050	1,893	1,243	1,836	1,796	1,730
French Equatorial Africa	390	583	-	600	600	41	87	107	120	100
French Morocco	1	5	2/8	5/8	10	9/	2	1/8	3/8	6
French West Africa	-	-	-	-	-	28	20	16	15	-
Mozambique	-	497	640	764	-	10/	33	93	128	81	110
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	36	30	60	60	80
Angola	73	-	-	102	110	13	24	20	28	22
Southern Rhodesia	2	5	4	-	-	9/	1	2	4	-
Union of South Africa	-	-	8	32	63	2	1	4	6	16
Australia	53	35	2	3	6	11	7	1	1	2
Total 4/	6,176	5,642	6,325	6,809	7,150	2,840	2,219	3,072	3,000	2,995
World total 4/	81,142	69,355	62,935	69,200	66,140	31,689	27,382	29,160	31,330	27,520

1/ Production in bales of 478 pounds net prior to 1946 and 480 pounds thereafter. 2/ Years shown refer to crop years in which major portion of crop was harvested. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above and allowances for other figures not available. 5/ Figures for 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes. 6/ Pakistan included with India. 7/ South Korea only, after 1941. 8/ Includes Algeria. 9/ Less than 500. 10/ Exports.

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nearly in balance in 1951-52. Assuming continuation of consumption at or near the 1950-51 level of about 33.0 million bales and adding prospective foreign production of 18.0 to 19.0 million bales to the United States production goal figure of 16,000,000 bales, it appears that world production should be slightly higher than consumption in 1951-52. However, any prospective excess in production over consumption will be needed to rebuild abnormally low stocks expected in practically all countries by the end of the current season (July 31). If production in the United States falls below the 16 million-bale goal, the small prospective margin of world production over consumption would be reduced accordingly or eliminated.

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COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

CANADIAN COTTON CONSUMPTION ATTAINS POSTWAR PEAK

Consumption of cotton in Canadian mills amounted to 45,473 bales (500 pounds gross weight) during March 1951. This was an increase of 4,032 bales over February consumption and was somewhat higher than the 42,986-bale consumption in March 1950. This was the highest level attained since October 1942, when 51,149 bales were consumed.

Consumption during the first 8 months of the 1950-51 season reached 320,827 bales compared with 275,310 bales in the same period of 1949-50, an increase of almost 17 percent. This accelerated activity, which is expected to continue for some time, is attributed to increase defense orders coincidental with a rise in consumer demand. It is expected that an increasingly greater proportion of the output of cotton textiles will be used for filling military orders, since the government program is just getting under way at present.

Established cotton mills are increasing their capacity and expanding their workweeks. Most mills are already operating at full capacity, 3 shifts per day where labor is available. In addition, new spinning mills are being constructed, but will not affect the level of cotton consumption until they come into operation after the middle of 1951. This activity would seem to indicate that the Canadian cotton industry expects to maintain a high level of consumption on a fairly permanent basis.

Canada: Imports of raw cotton from mayor countries of origin; averages 1934-38 and 1939-43; annual 1948-49 and 1949-50; August-February 1949-50 and 1950-51

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

	Year beginning August 1				August-February	
	Averages		1948	1949	1949-50	1950-51
	1934-38	1939-43				
Mexico	1/	2,592	47,092	125,509	96,792	61,282
United States	278,761	317,121	317,699	302,035	167,006	247,749
Brazil	1/	113,177	3,301	152	84	273
Peru	1/	5,659	437	550	497	527
Egypt	7,251	10,864	227	75	0	79
India	1,151	2,503	1,288	1,223	813	347
Others	2/ 1,005	3/ 2,398	275	4/ 1,282	82	5/ 1,035
Total	288,168	454,314	370,319	430,826	265,274	311,292

1/ If any, included in "Other Countries." 2/ 396 United Kingdom.
3/ 1,661 Paraguay. 4/ 1,055 Belgium. 5/ 599 Netherlands.
Monthly Summary of the Trade of Canada.

Consumption of cotton in Canada during 1950-51 is expected to reach a near-record level. Assuming that consumption for the remaining 4 months of the season is equal to the corresponding months of 1949-50, an estimated consumption of 465,000 bales would be likely, about 10 percent above 1949-50 consumption of 421,000 bales. However, if consumption for the remainder of the current season should continue at the level of recent months, an estimate of 475,000 bales for 1950-51 would be more accurate, almost 13 percent above consumption during the previous season. If this latter figure is attained, it would be the highest consumption by Canadian mills since 1941-42, when consumption, stimulated partly by military requirements of World War II, exceeded 500,000 bales.

With Canada exempted from the United States cotton export controls and with the sharp advance in prices of foreign growths, the great bulk of the Canadian demand for raw cotton has been filled this year by imports from the United States. Imports during August 1950 through February 1951 totaled 311,000 bales, almost 80 percent originating in the United States. During the corresponding period of 1949-50, only 63 percent of the 265,000 bales imported were received from the United States. In the past, Mexico has supplied large quantities of raw cotton to Canada but the rise in the price of this cotton in the latter half of 1950 caused Canadian mill owners to cease further purchases from that country. During the first 7 months of 1949-50 imports of 97,000 bales from Mexico formed 36 percent of total Canadian imports. During the corresponding period of the current season, however, only 61,000 bales or less than 20 percent of total imports originated in Mexico. - By J. E. Manger, based on reports by Philip C. Habib, Third Secretary, American Embassy, Ottawa.

IRAQI COTTON PRODUCTION INCREASES RAPIDLY

The latest official estimate of the 1950-51 production of cotton in Iraq places the crop at 38,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). This is more than 4 times as large as the 1949-50 crop of 8,500 bales. At the present time, the outlook for 1951-52 is for a substantially larger crop. Most estimates of its size range from 75,000 to 150,000 bales. The seed distributed for the 1951-52 crop has been reported to be about 5 times as much as was distributed for the crop just harvested.

The principal variety now grown in Iraq is the Acala Rogers, an American Upland-type medium staple variety. Prior to 1949 both Acala Rogers and Old Acala, another American-type cotton, were grown. However, the good characteristics and acceptance by foreign buyers of the Acala Rogers variety has led the Government to prohibit the growing of Old Acala since 1949. Experiments are being carried on to find the variety best suited to the climate and soil of the country. The Coker Wild variety, developed in the United States, is favored because its earlier maturing helps reduce cotton bollworm infestation. A short staple native variety is still grown in small quantities in the unirrigated region of northern Iraq. Recent experiments have been carried out on the development of a Pakistani short staple variety to meet the need of the local industries for improved short staple cotton.

The cotton industry in the country uses short staple cotton in mattress-making, upholstering and for a local type of home-made cloth. Requirements for this type of cotton are normally met by imports of around 2,300 bales of low-grade cotton and cotton waste from India. However, with the virtual embargo on exports from India in 1950, the small cottage industry has had to obtain supplies from the small production of short staple cotton in northern Iraq.

The single consumer of better-grade cotton in the country is the Iraq Spinning and Weaving Company, which began operations in 1948. With the installation of 12,000 new spindles in the fall of 1950, the mill now has 27,000 spindles in place. Total consumption in the country during the 1949-50 season was estimated at about 4,000 bales, but this will probably increase substantially during the current season with the enlarged capacity of the local mill.

Exports of cotton during January to October 1950 totaled 7,500 bales, 70 percent of which was shipped to Western Germany. It was expected that exports during the entire 1950 calendar year would reach 9,200 bales.

Prices of cotton in Iraq have more than doubled in the past year, following a pattern similar to those in other foreign countries. In August 1950, Acala Rogers had a wholesale price in Iraq equivalent to 31 U.S. cents a pound. This rose to 44 cents in October, 53 cents in December and 73 cents in March 1951. - By John E. Manger, based on a report by J. B. Button and A. J. Lawrence, American Embassy, Baghdad.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Spot quotation	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good		99.05 lbs.	Tallari			
Ashmouni, FGF		"	"			
Karnak, Good		"	"			
Karnak, FGF		"	"			
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	5-10	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 770.00	20.50	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	1/ 840.00	22.36	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	5-9	82.28 lbs.	"	126.00	46.20	23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	129.00	47.30	23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	145.00	53.16	23.09
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	5-10	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2/ 8000.00	72.58	6.77
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	5-9	101.4 lbs.	Sol	668.00	44.06	21.54
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	840.00	55.41	38.44
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	5-10	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	2/3/395.00	64.99	2.4% ad valorem
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	2/3/415.00	68.28	" "
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"		"	417.00	68.61	3.0% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"		101.4 lbs.	Peso			
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	44.86	----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.

2/ Nominal.

3/ Prices omitted from last week's table: Recife, May 3, 1951, in cruzeiros per arroba with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Mata, Type 4, 390.00 nominal (64.16); Sertao, Type 4, 410.00 nominal (67.45).

FATS AND OILS

SOUTH AFRICA'S OILSEED PRODUCTION SHOWS SIZEABLE INCREASE

Vegetable oilseed production in the Union of South Africa during the 1950-51 season shows a sizeable increase from last season, reports J. L. Dougherty, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Pretoria. The preliminary unofficial estimate places peanut production by Europeans at 60,000 short tons against 57,000 in 1949-50. Sunflower seed production, according to unofficial sources, is estimated at 50,000 tons compared with 35,000 last season. From the cotton crop of 15,000 bales of 500 pounds lint, about 8,000 tons of cottonseed may be obtained compared with 3,000 the past season. Tung oil production is estimated at 300 tons.

Castor beans are being grown only on a limited scale in the Transvaal and difficulties are being encountered with caterpillar damage which limits the expansion of the crop. There is no fixed price on castor beans but the demand is strong and prices are increasing rapidly.

Local consumption of edible oils is estimated at 22,000 tons per year. Estimates of edible fats range from 1,000 to 4,000 tons, soap oils 25,000 tons, and paint oils 9,500.

The Secretary of the Oil Expressers' Association indicates that a small surplus of peanut and sunflower seed oil will be available this season but the Food Control and Distribution Organization has not yet decided whether or not exports will be permitted. Cottonseed oil will be in the best supply position in many years. There will be deficiencies, however, in castor, linseed, and tung oils.

The following information regarding the marketing of the 1950-51 peanut and sunflower seed crops appeared in the February 1951 Crops and Markets of Pretoria:

"With a view to safeguarding the country's edible oil requirements and as a result of representations from the Groundnut Advisory Committee the Government again has decided to fix the price of groundnuts (shelled) and sunflower seed for oil expressing purposes in advance. . .

"After consultation between representatives of the Oil Expressers' Association and producers representatives of the Groundnut Advisory Committee, Oil Expressers undertake to pay £55 per ton ($154) for 40,000 tons of shelled peanuts and 21s. 9d. per bag of 100 pounds ($61 per ton) for 35,000 tons of sunflower seed from the 1950-51 crop. The Government decided in December 1950 that these prices will be applicable for all shelled peanuts and sunflower seed from the 1950-51 crop which are used for oil expressing. Established prices for 1949-50 peanuts and sunflower seed were £52-10-0 per ton ($147) and 21s. 9d. per bag ($61 per ton).

"The local food and seed requirements are established at 10,000 tons. Permission again is granted to Cooperative Societies to export 2,000 tons of unshelled peanuts after the requirements of local oil expressers have been met. Provision, therefore, has been made for a total disposal of approximately 52,000 tons of peanuts."

Exports from the Union of South Africa during 1950 included 576 tons of sunflower seed, 599 tons of unshelled peanuts, 763 tons of shelled peanuts, 9,824 tons of peanut oil, 7,188 tons of maize and sunflower seed oil and smaller quantities of other oil products. Imports included 991 tons of castor oil, 5,791 of coconut oil, 5,264 of linseed oil, 1,047 of flaxseed, 4,111 of palm kernel oil, 2,774 of palm oil, and other vegetable seeds and oils.

MADAGASCAR OILSEED PRODUCTION INCREASED IN 1950

Madagascar peanut and tung seed production in 1950 amounted to 13,400 and 2,150 short tons, respectively, compared with 7,810 and 1,540 tons in 1949, according to J. J. Lebrun, American Consulate, Tananarive. Other oilseeds produced in Madagascar are castor beans, pulghere seed and copra, but 1950 acreage and production data are not yet available.

Castor beans are the only domestically produced oilseed that is not locally processed. Of the other oilseeds, those not exported are used by the local oil and soap industry. The production of peanut oil is insufficient to meet local requirements and relatively large quantities of peanut and olive oil are imported from France, Senegal, and North Africa.

Imports of vegetable oils and oilseeds into Madagascar in 1950 included 567 tons of peanut oil, 406 tons of olive oil, 74 tons of linseed oil, and 1,070 tons of unspecified refined vegetable oils.

Major exports in 1950 were 3,160 tons of castor beans, 415 tons of copra, 230 tons of pulghere seeds, and 287 tons of tung oil.

The average price of peanuts in the shell during the 1950 season was 18 CFA francs per kilogram ($102.80 per short ton) unpacked, f.o.b. railroad car. Top grade peanuts, early April 1951, were quoted at 65 to 67.50 CFA francs per kilogram ($336.90 - $349.80) c.i.f. Marseille. Peanut oil manufactured locally was sold at 110 CFA francs per kilogram net ($570.20) local factory Tananarive, while imported peanut oil brought 97.50 to 102 CFA francs per kilogram ($505.40 - $528.70) c.i.f. Tamatave. Imported olive oil was wholesaled at 97.50 CFA francs per kilogram ($505.40) c.i.f. Tung oil was sold at 90 to 112.50 CFA francs per kilogram ($466.60 - $583.10) f.o.b. Majunga, while the seeds were bought at 10 CFA francs per kilogram ($51.80). Castor beans averaged 55 CFA francs per kilogram ($285.10) c.i.f. French ports during 1950. Copra was sold from 30 to 46.50 CFA francs per kilogram ($155.50 - $241.00) f.o.b. Nossi-Be and coconut oil, for local

consumption, from 90 to 125 CFA francs per kilogram ($647.90) local factory.

It is reported that 50 percent of the important coconut trees on Anjouan, one of the 4 islands in the Comoro Archipelago, were destroyed by a hurricane late in December 1950. Several years will be required before normal production of copra and coconut oil can be again resumed.

LEBANESE VEGETABLE OILSEED SITUATION 1950

Aside from the local production of sesame seed, all of Lebanon's vegetable oil industry requirements continue to be met by imports, according to Nicola Abboud, American Legation, Beirut. These imports consist chiefly of copra, cottonseed, flaxseed, and sesame seed.

Sesame seed production, estimated at 1,260 short tons in 1950, supplies about one-half of the quantity needed yearly for the local manufacture of sesame paste (tihine). Peanut output of about 700 tons is used in the salted nut industry.

Supply and distribution in Lebanon during 1950 was approximately as follows: (short tons)

	Copra	Cottonseed	Flaxseed	Sesame seed
Supply				
Estimated stocks, January 1	420	5,510	25	500
Production	-	-	-	1,260
Estimated imports from Syria, January-March	-	5,510	220	-
Other imports during 1950	4,320	14,860	565	3,200
Total	4,740	25,880	810	4,960
Distribution				
Oil industry requirements	4,630	19,730	805	2,205
Exports	45	180	5	615
Estimated stocks, December 31	65	5,970	-	2,140
Total	4,740	25,880	810	4,960

Imports of cottonseed from Turkey increased from 1,950 tons in 1949 to 12,580 in 1950, and sesame seed imports from Jordon from 18 to 1,828 tons.

The steady rise in prices of oilseeds abroad has resulted in a considerable increase in their prices on the Lebanese market. Wholesale prices of various oilseeds on April 1, 1951, with the price prevailing one year earlier were - cottonseed 320 Lebanese pounds per metric ton ($85 per short ton) in 1951 and 170 ($45) in 1950; sesame seed 1,150 ($305) in 1951 and 650 ($172) in 1950; copra 1,100 ($292) in 1951 and 700 ($186) in 1950; and flaxseed 650 ($172) in 1951 and 440 ($117) in 1950.

NORWEGIAN 1950 CONSUMPTION OF VEGETABLE OILSEEDS AND OILS

Consumption of vegetable oils in Norway during 1950 is estimated at 35,500 short tons, and this volume was obtained by importing 6,550 tons of vegetable oils and 92,250 tons of oilseeds, reports Einar Jensen, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Oslo. No oilseed crops are grown in Norway and in postwar years no vegetable oils have been exported.

Postwar consumption is 24 percent below 1938. This reduction is due to the greatly decreased use of vegetable oils in the production of margarine. In prewar years vegetable oils accounted for 60 percent of the fat content of margarine, while in 1950 this percentage was reduced to 34 percent. The remaining 66 percent was made up of marine oils. Of the total vegetable oils consumed, 18,650 tons consisted of coconut oil, 3,650 of peanut oil, 4,150 of soybean oil, and 9,050 of linseed oil. More than two-thirds of the total quantity consumed was utilized for food.

Throughout the postwar period the Norwegian Government has restricted the importation of vegetable oils and oilseeds in order to economize foreign exchange, and in 1950 imports of oilseeds were 82 percent of 1938 levels and oil imports only 47 percent.

Imports of oil bearing materials, mainly copra--31,788 tons, peanuts 9,309, soybeans 22,517, and flaxseed 28,063 tons, were allocated to the 6 oil crushing plants for processing.

Vegetable oil imports of 6,550 tons included 2,481 tons of olive oil. In 1950, for the first time in postwar years, the Government permitted the importation of olive oil to be used exclusively in the production of canned sardines and herrings.

No statistics are available on stocks of oilseeds in Norway. The oil crushing plants as a rule maintain stocks which, together with quantities to be obtained from contracts already made, are sufficient to supply the plants for a period of not less than 6 months. Stocks of linseed oil on January 1, 1951, were about 2,200 tons, but it is expected that such stocks will be reduced about 500 tons during the current year because larger quantities will be made available for consumption than will be produced. Linseed oil is still rationed and consumers must obtain permits to purchase it. In 1951, it is planned to permit the consumption of 7,250 tons.

In the immediate future years, it is expected that an attempt will be made to keep imports of oilseeds at present levels because of the strong demand for the oils and for the oil meal and cake.

SMALL PEANUT CROP HIGHLIGHTS CUBAN VEGETABLE OIL SITUATION IN 1950

Cuban peanut production during the 1950-51 crop year was the smallest in 13 years, totaling only 5,250 short tons of unshelled peanuts compared with 8,750 tons last year and the record output of 35,500 tons in 1943-44, according to J. R. Johnstone, American Embassy Havana. Of the 1950-51 crop, approximately 3,750 tons went to the crushing industry and yielded 1,050 tons of oil compared with 1,900 tons in 1949.

Commercial production of oleaginous crops in Cuba is confined almost exclusively to peanuts, although some castor beans also are grown.

Reduced plantings again were the primary reason for the low peanut harvest in 1950-51. Growers have in many instances found that they can obtain greater returns from other crops. Likewise, because of growing competition from imported vegetable oils, local peanut crushers, who supply most of the seed to farmers, have reduced operations. Frequently, they have gone into the oil importing business.

Preliminary estimates indicate that fats and oils consumption during 1950 totaled about 105,000 tons, or approximately 10 to 15 percent above 1949.

There were no significant exports of fats and oils during 1950. On the contrary, Cuba was more than 90 percent dependent upon imports of these commodities. Animal fats and oils, chiefly lard and rendered pork fat (69,730 tons) and inedible tallow and grease (16,015), made up 80 percent of the imports during the year. Of the remainder, imports of 13,740 tons of edible vegetable oils were the most important and consisted chiefly of soybean oil from the United States and olive oil from Spain.

Peanut growers received about $4.00 per quintal (101.4 pounds) for unshelled nuts. Wholesale prices for edible vegetable oils were appreciably higher in December 1950 than a year earlier. Most of these increases came after the outbreak of the Korean war.

Current stocks of most fats and oils are larger than usual because of large scale purchases earlier in the year. Local demand, however, is large, and burdensome inventories are likely to normalize in the near future.

Higher oil prices as compared with a year ago may stimulate peanut production during 1951-52. Accordingly, local crushers are distributing more seed than last year. Assuming that there are no adverse developments during the planting season now in progress, total plantings for the summer crop may exceed 20,000 acres, as compared with about 15,000 acres last

SPAIN'S VEGETABLE OILSEED PRODUCTION AGAIN SMALL

Spanish production of oilseeds, other than olives, amounted to about 24,650 short tons in 1950, reports Burl Stugard, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Madrid. There is little interest in producing oilseed crops and the small output was limited to 8,600 tons of cottonseed, 12,700 of peanuts, 650 of flaxseed, and 1,350 tons each of hempseed and sunflower seed.

Imports of vegetable oils and oilseeds continued comparatively small in 1950. Soybean oil imports of 13,720 tons, all from the United States, were less by one-third than the 1949 volume. This was probably due to lack of dollar exchange and to the olive oil carry-over from the large 1949-50 crop. However, since the 1950-51 olive oil crop was only about one-half of the previous year, and exports during 1950 more than 6 times greater than in 1949, a shortage of edible oils has developed throughout Spain. Other vegetable oils imported consisted of 2,350 tons of palm oil, principally from Spanish Guinea and 208 tons of other oils. Copra imports of 8,788 tons were 2,400 tons higher than in 1949, and also were supplied by Spanish Guinea.

Flaxseed and castor bean imports of 3,094 tons were purchased chiefly from India and French Morocco.

Stocks of vegetable oils are believed to be very low at present as the Industrial demand continues to exceed the supply.

Marketing of vegetable oilseeds and oils in Spain is controlled by the Government. The volume of business is relatively small, and the oil mills receive all of the imported raw materials and domestic cottonseed as the supply becomes available.

Due to rains during the winter and spring, the prospects are good in 1951 for normal olive, cottonseed, and other vegetable oilseed production. However, until these crops are harvested and processed, Spain could use considerable quantities of oil from other sources.

VENEZUELAN FATS AND OILS SITUATION IN 1950

Venezuelan production of vegetable oils in 1950 is estimated at 3,630 short tons compared with 3,940 tons in 1949, according to James H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Caracas.

Sesame oil production of 2,360 tons in 1950 represented an increase of almost 23 percent from the previous year. Coconut oil with 1,200 tons and cotton-seed oil with 290 tons were the only other vegetable oils of commercial importance produced.

Production of vegetable lard increased from 7,690 tons in 1949 to 15,700 tons in 1950, thus reflecting the effect of the hog lard import quota of 4,960 tons for the 12-month period following the date of its official announcement on June 23, 1950. Butter production dropped from 1,710 tons in 1949 to 1,480 tons in 1950, a decrease of almost 14 percent.

Principal fats and oils imported in 1950 with 1949 comparisons in parentheses were as follows: coconut oil 6,403 tons (2,100), olive oil 3,248 (1,086), linseed oil 985 (429), copra 20,958 (6,786), sesame seed 4,182 (1,398) peanuts 1,128 (127), hog lard 5,327 (7,538), tallow and products 3,155 (3,466), and butter, 4,244 (1,096).

Venezuela continues to rely upon outside sources of vegetable oils and oilseeds to meet its domestic requirements and there is little evidence that this condition will change in the near future.

A major development of the Venezuelan fats and oils industry was the opening of the first margarine plant in the country. Although current production has been geared to the market, early acceptance of the product indicates that the plant may soon be operating at a capacity output of about 24 tons per 24 hours. The current pack is primarily a 50-50 cottonseed oil-coconut oil mixture, while the milk base is reconstituted from imported non-fat dried milk solids of United States origin.

The product, under the trade name "Mavesa" is packed to sell at a retail price of 3.00 bolivares (90 cents per pound). This is 25 percent cheaper than any other spread now available in Venezuela.

JAPANESE WHALE OIL PRODUCTION FROM 1950-51 ANTARCTIC SEASON

Japanese whale oil production from the 1950-51 Antarctic season is estimated at 27,600 short tons compared with 29,320 tons from the previous season. Preliminary reports indicate that 2,332 baleen whales and 409 sperm whales were caught from which approximately 63,200 tons of raw material were processed.

Although a greater number of whales were caught in the 1950-51 season, total oil production decreased from 1949-50 when only 1,941 whales were taken. This was due principally to the fact that 88 percent of this year's catch consisted of fin whales, which yield less oil and meat than blue whales, while last year only 54 percent of the total were of this species.

According to the Norwegian Whaling Gazette for January 1951, the Japanese companies have sold 12,000 metric tons (13,225 short tons) of whale oil to Western Germany on a barter basis at U.S. $420-425 a ton ($381 - $385.50 per short ton), subject to Japanese export license.

CORRECTION

In the article New Zealand Harvests Large Flaxseed Crop in Foreign Crops and Markets, May 7, 1951, Vol. 62, No. 19, page 528, the third paragraph should have read:

"Imports of flaxseed during January-March 1950 amounted to 34,200 bushels against 87,040 in the year 1949. The total for both years came from India. Imports for the year 1950 are expected to reach 120,000

bushels. Only 350 short tons of linseed oil were imported last year (January-March)compared with 3,252 during the year 1949."

GRAIN, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

EGYPT INCREASES WHEAT PRICE TO PRODUCERS

The Egyptian Government has announced a substantial increase in the price to be paid wheat producers, beginning with the 1952 crop. The present rate of 3 Egyptian pounds per ardeb was considered high enough to encourage wheat seeding, when first set in 1949. After devaluation of the pound, however, that rate, formerly the equivalent of $2.22 per bushel, was considered too low, and deliveries to Government collecting agencies dropped sharply, according to reports. At present rates of exchange the fixed price to growers is the equivalent of $1.57 per bushel.

That rate appears too low to maintain wheat acreage, in the face of larger profits from cotton, said to return as much as 4 times the profits from wheat on the same land. Present rates fixed for wheat are considerably below the price paid for imported wheat under the International Wheat Agreement for the country's quota of 14.7 million bushels.

The price fixed for the 1952 crop is the equivalent of $2.61 per bushel, approximately that paid for the quota wheat imported. It is hoped that the increased fixed price will encourage a shift back to wheat acreage as well as increase deliveries to the Government under the present system of requisitioning, which calls for delivery of roughly 50 percent of the crop. Fines imposed for non-delivery of requisitioned wheat, however, have been nominal and deliveries are expected to continue small under the current low price.

CANADIAN WHEAT FEEDING INCREASED

Wheat fed to livestock and poultry in Canada this season is expected to be about a third larger than wheat fed during the past crop year, according to preliminary estimates. The bulk of the increase is indicated in feeding of locally-grown grain, though a substantial increase is also noted in wheat shipped from the Prairie Provinces to the east and British Columbia in the first half of the current crop year, under the Freight Assistance policy. Under that policy, initiated in 1942, the Government absorbs freight charges on grain shipped for feed from the Prairie Provinces.

Wheat fed in Provinces where grown is expected to total 41 million bushels, compared with 31 million reported fed in the year ended July 31, 1950. Preliminary estimates indicate that the largest increase will be in Ontario, with an increase of about 4.5 million bushels, compared with feedings the previous year. Ontario is also one of the 2 largest

Canada: Estimated wheat fed to livestock and poultry, 1949-50 and 1950-51 1/

Province	Crop year 1949-50			Crop year 1950-51 2/		
	Wheat fed	Production	Percent of crop fed	Wheat fed	Production	Percent of crop fed
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	Percent	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	Percent
Prince Edward Island	106	150	71	135	187	72
Nova Scotia	34	44	78	38	45	85
New Brunswick	63	79	80	68	90	76
Quebec	351	468	75	587	691	85
Ontario	12,630	25,776	49	17,178	31,233	55
Manitoba	3,900	52,000	8	3,400	50,000	7
Saskatchewan	7,700	186,000	4	11,400	260,000	4
Alberta	5,500	103,000	5	7,800	117,000	7
British Columbia	780	3,886	20	484	2,418	20
Total Canada	31,064	371,406	8	41,090	461,664	9

1/ Excludes wheat shipped from one Province to another, for feed.

2/ Preliminary estimate.

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

claimants under the Freight Assistance plan. Such shipments for the first 6 months of the current year were about 2.2 million bushels, compared with 1.4 million for that period of 1949-50. Quebec, the largest receiver of freight-assisted shipments, shows an increase of about a million bushels over the shipments in the first half of the past crop year, bringing the total to 2.8 million for the current season. No significant increase in feeding of home-grown grain is feasible in this Province where 75-85 percent of the small production is utilized as feed. Freight-assisted shipments to British Columbia, the third important destination, were smaller than a year ago.

A significant net increase in the quantity to be fed in the Prairie Provinces is attributed to the increased feeding rate in Saskatchewan and Alberta. An increase of 3.7 million bushels estimated for Saskatchewan brings that total to 17.2 million. Alberta is expected to feed 7.8 million bushels, a 2.3 million increase. Manitoba, in contrast, is expected to feed slightly less than in 1949-50.

The increased feeding of wheat reflects the unusually large proportion of low grade wheat in the 1950 crop. The larger shipments of wheat for feed are associated with substantial declines in shipment of feed oats and barley to eastern Provinces this season.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

CANADIAN BUTTER AND CHEESE SUPPORT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED. 1/

The Minister of Agriculture announced on April 27 that the Agricultural Prices Support Board, through the Dairy Products Board, will be prepared to purchase first grade butter and cheese. The support price for butter is 58 cents a pound throughout the dairy years 1951-52 and 1952-53. The support price for butter is 28 cents per pound, plus storage charges to the date of delivery (not later than January 1, 1952).

The Board is expected to continue the policy of distributing any butter obtained during the summer flush production period, through the trade, during the winter months at prices which are considered fair to the consumer. The Board may also import butter during the December-April season of short supply, if it seems desirable in order to maintain adequate stocks.

CANADA LIFTS BAN ON LIVE HOG EXPORTS TO THE U.S.

The Canadian Minister of Agriculture announced on May 3 the removal of Canada's long-standing embargo against the export of live hogs to the United States, effective at once. The embargo was established on July 23, 1941.

1/ The support program of the United States is set at 66 cents per pound for first-grade butter and 36 cents per pound for first-grade cheese from April 1, 1951 to March 31, 1952.

In the absence of a British bacon contract this year, and, in lieu of any effective price support program on hogs, there has been no legal basis for maintaining the embargo.

The opening of the United States border will make it difficult for Britain to get any Canadian bacon this year, or at least until very late in 1951.

The hog price relationships in the United States and Canada, however, are such that the lifting of the embargo may have little or no practical effect right now or in the immediate future. Current Canadian prices are sufficiently higher than United States prices, except possibly some weaning pigs from Alberta and some sows from the Windsor area.

CANADIAN WOOL CONSUMPTION HIGH

The domestic disappearance of wool in Canada in 1950 was 87,444 thousand pounds, compared with 76,635 thousand pounds in 1949. According to a report from Francis A. Flood, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ottawa. The average for the past 10 years has been about 95,000 thousand pounds. It is noteworthy that Canada's normal domestic consumption of wool is just about 10 times last year's production. However - not counting the very low production in 1950 - Canada's normal wool production is about one-sixth of Canada's wool needs. On the basis of 13½ million people in Canada, the 1950 domestic dissappearance of wool was about 6.5 pounds per capita. Canada has always been a very heavy consumer of wool on a per capita basis. The following table shows the domestic disappearance of wool in Canada in recent years, in thousands of pounds, greasy basis:

Average 1935-39	62,264	1946	110,380
1941	105,299	1947	88,882
1942	130,521	1948	102,167
1943	119,866	1949	76,635
1944	56,449	1950	87,444
1945	67,205		

WOOL PRODUCTION IN CANADA EXPECTED TO RISE

Canadian wool production in 1951 is estimated at 10 million pounds grease basis, a slight increase over the 1950 estimate. Although the increase is not large the change in direction of the trend is significant. Production in 1950 at 9.5 million pounds was less than half of that in 1944 and 1945 and was the lowest in this century.

Sheep numbers in December 1950 showed a small increase over the previous year for the first time since 1944, reversing a trend which has carried sheep numbers to the lowest point in a great many years.

Sheep and wool exports of the Dominion Department of Agriculture according to a report from Francis Flood, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ottawa, feel confident that the trend has been reversed and that sheep numbers and wool production will begin a gradual increase. Aside from the extremely high world price for wool which has made wool production possible, Dominion authorities have very actively encouraged a return to sheep farming. The government has assisted in the shipping of several hundred ewes from Saskatchewan and Alberta to Ontario, have carried on an active educational campaign to "Keep Your Ewe Lamb," and have helped to implement the shift from pure lines to a cross-breed basis. Another reason for the increased interest in sheep farming in that dairy farming is becoming somewhat less attractive because of price prospects and there if some shift from dairying to sheep.

WOOL PRODUCTION IN GUATEMALA CUT BY PESTS

Wool Production in Guatemala normally only about 600 thousand pounds, grease basis, probably will be reduced to 460 thousands pounds in 1951 because of losses of sheep to a serious head-grub infestation.

About 60 percent of Guatemala's wool is from black-wool sheep and 40 percent is white or gray wool. Almost all wool produced is of carpet wool type and all of that but 5 percent is used at home by Indians who weave very colorful blankets and coverings.

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

BELGIUM'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, IMPORTS,EXPORTS AND STOCKS INCREASED

Belgium's 1950 tobacco production is estimated at 44 percent above 1949 and 60 percent above 1948 according to Robert N. Anderson, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Brussels. Factory consumption for 1950 was 5 percent above 1949 and 8 percent above 1948. Leaf imports during 1950 were more than twice as large as in the previous year. Stocks of leaf on January 1951 were reportedly 21 percent above the total on the same 1950 date and 74 percent above the total on January 1949.

The country's 1950 leaf crop is estimated at 10.0 million pounds from 4,396 acres. This compares with 6.9 million pound from 3,350 acres in 1949 and 6.2 million pounds from 4,020 acres in 1948. Average yield per acre was 2,275 pounds during 1950, compared with 2,065 pounds per acres in 1949 and 1,554 pounds per acre in 1948.

Factory consumption of tobacco for manufacturing tobacco products during 1950 totaled 55.2 million pounds. This corresponds to 52.8 million pounds in 1949 and 51.2 million pounds in 1948. Only about 15 percent of the total consumption was domestic leaf.

Imports, of leaf tobacco during 1950 totaled 47.2 million pounds compared with 41.8 million pounds in 1949 and 41.8 million in 1948. The United States, the most important source of leaf during 1950, supplied 29.0 million pounds or 61 percent of all leaf imports. The Dominican Republic, the second most important 1950 source of leaf imports, supplied 3.8 million pounds or 8 percent. Turkey, ranked third, with 3.4 million or 7 percent and Brazil, fourth with 3.1 million or 7 percent. The remaining 19 percent was supplied in varying quantities by Cuba, Paraguay, Argentina, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Algeria and others. In addition to leaf Belgium imported 813,497 pounds of cigarettes, 209,437 pounds of smoking tobacco and 178,573 pounds of cigars and cigarillos during 1950.

Exports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1950 totaled 8.2 million pounds compared to 2.9 million pounds during the preceding year. Most of the 1950 exports went to the Netherlands. Eastern and Western Germany were also important export outlets for tobacco products.

Stocks of leaf on January 1, 1951 totaled 43.6 million pounds compared to 36.1 million on the same 1950 date and 25.1 million in January 1949.

DENMARK'S TOBACCO IMPORTS, STOCKS, AND CONSUMPTION HIGHER; EXPORTS LOWER

Denmark's 1950 unmanufactured tobacco imports were 18 percent above 1949 according to Harry LeBovit, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Copenhagen. Exports of tobacco and tobacco products in 1950 were 39 percent below 1949. Factory consumption of unmanufactured tobacco in 1950 was 3 percent above the previous year. Stocks of leaf in the hand of manufacturers on December 31, 1950 were 50 percent above tht total on the same date in 1949.

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 totaled 30.5 million pounds compared to 25.5 million pounds in 1949. The United States, the most important source of unmanufactured tobacco supplied 16.1 million pounds; Brazil, second most important source, supplied 4.0 million and Indonesia ranked third with 2.8 million pounds. The remaining 1950 imports of 7.8 million pounds were supplied by numerous European and other countries.

Exports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1950 totaled 1.4 million compared to 2.3 million in 1949. Of the total 1950 exports, leaf constituted 1.2 million pounds or 86 percent. The other 14 percent was made up of manufactured tobacco products including cigarettes and smoking tobacco. Countries taking Denmark's tobacco exports included the Netherlands, Western Germany, Finland, Sweden, Iceland and Switzerland.

Factory consumption of leaf during 1950 totaled 23.4 million pounds compared to 22.6 million pounds in 1949. In 1950 Denmark manufactured 4,028 million cigarettes, 394 million cigars and an equal number of cigarillos as well as 7,641 pounds of other tobacco products.

Leaf stocks on December 31, 1950 totaled about 23.4 million or the same as the total factory consumption for the calendar year 1950. Leaf stocks on December 31, 1949 totaled about 15.4 million pounds.

GUATEMALA'S LEAF AND CIGARETTE PRODUCTION INCREASED; IMPORTS AND STOCKS HIGHER

Guatemala's 1949-50 tobacco harvest is estimated at 38 percent above 1948-49 according to D.M. Crawford, Agricultural Attache, Guatemala. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco in 1950 were 13 percent above 1949. Leaf stocks on February 1, 1951 were over 3 times larger than on the same date in 1950. Cigarette production in 1950 was 5 percent above 1949.

The country's 1949-50 leaf crop is estimated at 4.6 million pounds as compared to 2.9 million pounds in 1948-49 and 2.6 million pounds in 1947-48. Native leaf constituted 4.1 million pounds or 89 percent of the 1949-50 leaf harvest, flue-cured leaf made up 0.4 million pounds or 9 percent, and Burley the remaining 0.1 million pounds or 2 percent. The 1950-51 Guatemalan tobacco crop is tentatively forecast at about 10 percent below the 1949-50 crop. This decrease is partly attributed to lower prices being paid to growers.

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 totaled 465,000 pounds compared with 411,050 in 1949. No official data is available as to Guatemala's sources of unmanufactured tobacco for 1950 but it is believed that the United States supplied the bulk of its imports as was the case in 1949 when the United States supplied 408,563 pounds out of a total of 411,050 pounds. Other 1949 sources of unmanufactured tobacco included Cuba, Indonesia, and Canada.

Leaf stocks on February 1, 1951 totaled 1,371,565 pounds as compared with only 335,362 pounds on the same 1949 date.

Cigarette production in 1950 totaled 1,534 million cigarettes compared to 1,456 million in 1949. Cigar manufacture totaled 77 million pieces in 1950 compared with 90 million in 1949. It is believed that about 5 million of the 77 million cigars produced in 1950 were made in homes.

NICARAGUA TOBACCO PRODUCTION LOWER; IMPORTS HIGHER

Nicaragua's 1950-51 tobacco production is unofficially estimated about 10 percent below 1949-50 according to J. P. Rourk, Assistant Attache, American Embassy, Managua. Imports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 were 22 percent above 1949.

The country's 1950-51 leaf crop is unofficially estimated at 650,000 pounds compared with 718,467 pounds in 1949-50 and 1,014,416 pounds in 1948-49. This season's decrease in leaf production is attributed to the reduction in acreage planted to flue-cured leaf. This reduction was a planned program by the Compania Tabacolera de Nicaragua, to reduced the accumulated leaf stocks which have become excessive.

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco totaled 651,000 pounds in 1950 as compared to 534,000 pounds in 1949 and 504,000 pounds in 1948. The United States supplied all unmanufactured tobacco in 1950. Nicaragua also imported approximately 2,250,000 cigarettes, 82 pounds of cigars and 624 pounds of other manufactured tobacco in 1950. The United States supplied 99 percent of the cigarette and 95 percent of other manufactured tobacco imports except cigars. Cuba supplied 98 percent of the 1950 cigar imports and Mexico the other 2 percent. Panama, Honduras, Costa Rica and Mexico supplied the remaining 1 percent of cigarettes and the United Kingdom and Jamaica the remainint 5 percent of other manufactured tobacco.

COSTA RICA'S 1950-51 COFFEE CROP SMALLER

Costa Rica's 1950-51 coffee harvest has been completed, and the total output is estimated at 307,000 bags, a decline of about 21 percent below the 1949-50 production, according to E.E. Piza, Commercial Investigator, American Embassy, San Jose. Since 15 percent of the coffee production is reserved for domestic consumption, the 1950-51 output should provide about 260,000 bags for export. The quality of the coffee from the 1950-51 crop is considered good. No carry-over of coffee from the 1950-51 crop is expected, since most of the output has been sold already.

Heavy rains in March 1951 reportedly did serious damage to the 1951-52 crop on the Atlantic slope. However, it is too early to forecast the size of the crop. Weather conditions at present are reported to be very satisfactory.

Exports of coffee from Costa Rica amounted to 313,000 bags in 1950, compared with 269,000 bags in 1949 and 384,000 bags in 1948. The average price of coffee for export from Costa Rica increased from 41 cents a pound in March 1950 to 55 cents in March 1951. It is reported that the average Costa Rican coffee exporter considers present coffee prices very satisfactory and coffee ceiling prices in the United States fair.